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The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations

Letter dated 12 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of an appeal adopted on 28 June 2000 by the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, addressed to the parliamentarians of the world (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under item 61 (b) of the preliminary list.

(*Signed*) Madina B. **Dzharbusynova**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 12 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The twenty-first century: century of peace and morality

Distinguished parliamentarians of the world,

Humankind, having followed the centuries-old path of its development to the threshold of the new twenty-first century, is now seeking to understand the past and, gazing far into the future, is reflecting, willy-nilly, on where the energy, thoughts and strength of the human intellect should be directed.

The passing twentieth century has entered human history as the era of the attainment of the newest technologies, the development of outer space and, at the same time, of interactive spiritual progress. And however paradoxical it may be, it is this century that has left in people's memory the horrors of genocide, hunger and global ecological catastrophe. Two world wars, with their irremediable human and material losses, also fell to its lot. The consequences of the atomic bombing of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and of the Chernobyl nuclear accident will never fade from human consciousness. To us, the people of Kazakhstan, who have survived more than one nuclear test on the Semipalatinsk and other ranges and the consequences of the disappearance of the Aral Sea, the pain of humankind is close at hand and understandable.

By declaring itself a non-nuclear State, Kazakhstan took an important step in the cause of strengthening peace on Earth. Having transformed itself from a country of nomads into a developed country with the Baikonur cosmodrome, it is striving in every way to use its capacities in the interest of universal well-being. But peace and tranquillity on Earth are attained through sustained effort on the part of all. On this path, we must draw the correct conclusions from past mistakes and always remember that our fate is in our hands. Universal human values are inherent in us, as in all of you, regardless of different nations, genders, races, origins and creeds. The philosophy of spiritual culture always proclaimed: Do not stray from the path of truth, do no harm, develop and flourish, improve yourself, using the potential of accumulated reason only for the good of humankind.

Distinguished parliamentarians, only by uniting our efforts will we pave the way to the strengthening of peace, confidence and moral health and the flourishing of every country's economy, and avoid nuclear and ecological catastrophe.

We call upon all of you to direct your general law-making activity towards serving the high ideals of humankind. Let us leave as the legacy of the future generation a peaceful, creative Mother Earth.

We, the members of Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, sincerely hope for a full understanding of our noble aspirations. We are convinced that the assembly of world parliamentarians will also support this appeal.

May the twenty-first century be the century of peace and morality.

Appeal adopted at the joint meeting of the Chambers of
Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Astan, 27 June 2000